

Message Text

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ACTION NRC-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 OES-06 FEA-01 ACDA-07 CIAE-00

INR-07 IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 DODE-00 /064 W
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R 220920Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2433

INFO USERDA WASHDC

USERDA GERMANTOWN

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DEPT PASS TO NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION, J. LAFLEAUR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, JA

SUBJECT: ADJUSTMENT IN PWR CALCULATIONS

REF: STATE 224547

1. LETTER SENT TO MATSUDA IN ACCORDANCE INSTRUCTIONS REFTEL. FIRST RESPONSE CAME FROM ISHIDA OF DIV. OF REACTOR REGULATION IN FORM OF PHONE CALL. HE SAID THAT REACTOR ADVISORY GROUP OF MITI IS NOW EVALUATING DATA OBTAINED FROM COLUMBIA AND THAT STA IS "UNEASY" ABOUT RELEASING DATA PRIOR TO COMPLETION OF EVALUATION. HE REFERRED EMBASSY TO SUEHIRO, SR. DEPUTY DIRECTOR, NUCLEAR POWER GENERATION DIVISION, AGENCY FOR NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY, MITI.

2. SUEHIRO SENT DEPUTY DIRECTOR, KAKINUMA, TO DISCUSS SUBJECT WITH EMBOFF. KAKINUMA GENERALLY CONFIRMED STATEMENT BY ISHIDA, BUT ADDED THAT MITI IS CONCERNED THAT WAY THINGS STAND NOW, IF DATA IN PRESENT FORM WERE GIVEN TO NRC ON COLUMBIA EXPERIMENTS, IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE THAT NRC WOULD REACH ONE CONCLUSION FROM THEM AND MITI ANOTHER. HE THEREFORE PROPOSED THAT BOTH SIDES (MITI AND NRC) AGREE TO (1) EXCHANGE, REPEAT EXCHANGE, DATA ON PWR ROD-BOWING EXPERIMENTS (2)
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COMPLETE EVALUATIONS ON EACH SIDE, AND (3) EXCHANGE RESULTS

ON EVALUATIONS, BEFORE NRC MAKES ANY PUBLIC STATEMENT OR DETERMINATION BASED ON EXPERIMENTS. ALTERNATIVELY, EACH SIDE COULD EXCHANGE EVALUATIONS AND SUPPORTING DATA PRIOR TO NRC PUBLIC STATEMENT. KAKINUMA SEEMED TO PREFER EITHER COURSE, BUT SAID THAT FORMER COURSE MIGHT BE POSSIBLE.

3. KAKINUMA ALSO SAID IT IS NOT CLEAR FROM NRC LETTER (REFTEL) IN WHAT FORM NRC WISHES TO RECEIVE DATA, I.E., RAW COMPUTER PRINTOUTS, COMPILED DATA (E.G., WITH SMOOTHED CURVES), ETC. SPECIFIC DEFINITION OF TYPE OF INFORMATION DESIRED WOULD HELP NRC CASE.

4. ABOVE IS FOR RECORD PURPOSES ONLY, SINCE SUEHIRO THEN CALLED EMBOFF TO WITHDRAW ALTERNATIVES PROPOSED BY KAKINUMA. SUEHIRO'S POSITION IS: UNEVALUATED DATA NOT AVAILABLE FOR EXCHANGE DUE TO POSSIBILITY THAT MITI AND NRC WILL REACH DIFFERENT CONCLUSIONS; MITI WILL COMPLETE PRELIMINARY EVALUATION OF DATA AROUND END OF SEPTEMBER AND A DRAFT REPORT WILL BE GENERATED; THEN MITI WILL BE PREPARED TO EXPLAIN REPORT TO NRC AND OFFER DATA WHICH NRC DESIRES; MITI ASKS THAT NRC REPRESENTATIVE COME TO TOKYO TO RECEIVE EXPLANATION AND TO DISCUSS REPORT AND ACQUISITION OF DATA; NRC WILL SEEK APPROVAL OF MITI BEFORE NRC MAKES ANY PUBLIC STATEMENT OR DETERMINATION BASED ON JAPANESE-SPONSORED EXPERIMENTS.

5. EMBOFF AGREED TO TRANSMIT MITI POSITION TO NRC BUT EXPRESSED CONSIDERABLE RESERVATION ABOUT PROSPECTS FOR NRC REPRESENTATIVE COMING TO TOKYO FOR EXPRESS PURPOSE OF PROPOSAL. HE NOTED THAT ERDA TOKYO REP. W. HENOKH WILL RETURN TO TOKYO ABOUT OCTOBER 1, COINCIDENT WITH COMPLETION OF PRELIMINARY MITI REPORT. SUEHIRO APPEARED TO BE WILLING TO HAVE HENOKH ACT FOR NRC ON THIS MATTER. (FINAL DETERMINATION PROBABLY MUST AWAIT COMPLETION OF REPORT AND ANY FURTHER GUIDANCE NRC WISHES TO OFFER).

HODGSON

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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